

B18

rider applies a constant force F irrespective of the direction thereof in the power phase and that it is at rest in the recovery phase ($F=0$). Then, time average consumption of human power is the same in both the human powered drive mechanisms. Namely, the energy use efficiency is approx 1.18 times. In this embodiment, the length of the linear portion of the endless driving member is $0.5\pi R$, but if it is made longer, the power input is further increased.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4, 7, and 8 without prejudice and without disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, and 11-13 to read as shown below. A marked-up version of those claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

For the convenience of the Examiner, all of the remaining pending claims, whether amended herein or not, are set forth below

B19

1. (Twice Amended) A human powered drive mechanism comprising a rotatable member, a supporting member, an endless driving member extended around said rotatable member and said supporting member, a human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said endless driving member, and constraining means for constraining rotation of said drive receiving portion about a line included in a plane in which the endless driving member moves, wherein said supporting member is rotatable, and said human powered drive receiving portion is capable of circulating with said endless driving member, and wherein said constraining means includes an arm having one end rotatably mounted to said drive

B19 receiving portion and a free crank having one end rotatably mounted to a frame and another end rotatably mounted to another end of the arm.

B20 ~~2~~ (Not Changed From Prior Version) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein said endless driving member is movable along a large curvature radius portion, first and second small curvature radius portions, and said endless driving member is extended around said supporting member and said rotatable member at the first and second small curvature radius portions.

~~3~~ (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein said drive receiving portion is rotatable about an axis substantially perpendicular to a plane in which said endless driving member moves.

B21 ~~6~~ (Twice Amended) A human powered drive mechanism comprising a first rotatable member, a first supporting member, a first endless driving member extended around said first rotatable member and said first supporting member, a second rotatable member, a second supporting member, a second endless driving member extended around said second rotatable member and said second supporting member, a first human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said first endless driving member and a second human powered drive receiving portion mounted to said second endless driving member, wherein said first rotatable member and second rotatable member are coaxial with each other and are fixed to each other by a shaft member, said shaft member comprising a third rotatable member between said first and second rotatable members, wherein said first supporting

B21
member is rotatable, and said first human powered drive receiving portion is capable of circulating with said first endless driving member, and wherein said second supporting member is rotatable, and said second human powered drive receiving portion is capable of circulating with said second endless driving member.

B22
⁴
~~9.~~ (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein a rotation axis of said free crank is disposed outside an orbit formed by said endless driving member.

⁵
~~11.~~ (Twice Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein said mechanism is used with a bicycle.

B23
⁶
~~12.~~ (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein an inclination angle of a large curvature radius portion of said endless driving member relative to a ground surface is variable.

⁷
~~13.~~ (Amended) A human powered drive mechanism according to Claim 1, wherein said endless driving member includes a plurality of links, and one of said links constitutes a driving force receiving link, wherein said driving force receiving link is provided with a shaft projected in a direction perpendicular to a plane in which said endless driving member moves, and said driving force receiving link is rotatably mounted to said constraining means through the shaft.

⁸
~~14.~~ (Not Changed From Prior Version) A human powered drive mechanism
according to Claim ~~13~~⁷, wherein the shaft is integral with said driving force receiving link,
and is rotatable relative to said constraining means.

⁹
~~15.~~ (Not Changed From Prior Version) A human powered drive mechanism
according to Claim ~~13~~⁷, wherein said driving force receiving link is provided with a U-
shaped groove, in which said driving force receiving link is rotatably connected with an
adjacent link of said endless driving member.

¹⁰
~~16.~~ (Not Changed From Prior Version) A human powered drive mechanism
according to Claim ~~13~~⁷, wherein said driving force receiving link is rotatably mounted to said
constraining means by a roller bearing or a linear motion bearing such as a linear bush or the
like.